(2) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 1961 (L.A. BILL NO. 19 OF 1961). 3-20 p.m.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir I move—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill,[a] 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 19 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration'.

Sir, this Bill is with reference to the Supplementary Grants.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill[a] 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 19 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration'.

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir I move—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1961 (L.A. Bill No 19 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 19 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed'.

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

(3) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL, 1961 (L.A. BILL NO. 20 OF 1961).

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill,[b] 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 20 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill,[b] 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 20 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration'.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, this Appropriation Bill authorises the Finance Minister to incur an expenditure of Rs. 182 crores in the coming year. Before I speak on some of the features of the administration of finance, I would like to say a word or two. One thing is this. It is not always a difficult thing for a member of the Opposition to pay any compliment or encomium to the Treasury Benches in appreciation of the good work done, particularly on the eve of the general elections. Be that as it may. In

---

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 86-88 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix III on pages 88-91 infra.

spite of my being a member of the Opposition, I do say that we feel proud of the good work and the achievements of the Government of Madras, and particularly of the prestige which this Government are having throughout the whole of India for some of the things done. What has contributed to this was the stability which prevails in the State. Not that I like to sit in judgment, by comparison, over what other States have done. But somehow we find that there are certain good things and peculiar things in this State, particularly at a time when charges and counter-charges have become the order of the day in some of the other States. So, whatever may be the line of our criticism against the Government as a whole or the members of the Treasury Bench individually, the one redeeming feature in the last four and a half years is that not one member could say against the Ministers any charge of nepotism, corruption, bribery, or any other thing. That is a great thing. I am sure the Madras Government will maintain their standards.

With these introductory remarks, I like to say just one or two words. According to the statement of the Government themselves, we are spending a sum of Rs. 28.08 crores on Services. This does not take into account the amount of nearly a crore and odd rupees spent on pensions. If we take the amount which is spent on payment to teachers, according to the Government themselves, the figure came to Rs. 32·31 crores in 1959–60 and it comes to Rs. 41·23 crores in the coming year. The percentage works out to 47 in the previous year and in the coming year it comes to 50.8. Mr. Chairman, it means that out of the revenues of the State of Madras, nearly 50·8 per cent is spent merely on services. I do not know what was the percentage in the previous years. But today the position is that we are spending 50 per cent of our revenues on Services. I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to this. Has any attempt been made to evaluate the work rendered by the Services? Does the amount spent on the Services bear any proportion to the services rendered by them. If the Finance Minister, who is in a better position, knows it, then we in the Opposition, I am sure, can leave it. But if it is not so, he can then try to improve matters. Because it is a question of our spending fifty per cent of the revenues on them. Another aspect which I would like bring before the Hon. Minister is that, hon. Members are aware and you are also aware that in the pre-Independence days when the income of the Government of Madras was hardly Rs. 15 crores or Rs. 16 crores, most of the amounts was spent only on routine work. But after independence, a change has taken place. Apart from spending on the usual things, huge sums have been spent on the First Five-Year Plan and the Second Five-Year Plan. Very heavy amounts have to be disbursed by way of loans and subsidies. My point is that in the case of the usual expenditure, the Accountant-General has got complete control to see whether the amount earmarked has been spent. Of course

28th March 1961] [Sri Mohamed Raza Khan]

whether it has been spent properly or not is not the function of the Accountant-General. That is the function of the Finance Minister and the department. Now, Sir, a sum of Rs. 23.30,00,000 is to be spent by the Government of Madras in the budget year by way of loans alone. This is a very huge sum. Of course they might get some loans from the Government of India. But the fact remains that we are spending a sum of Rs. 23·30 crores by way of loans and by way of subsidy we are spending Rs. 96 lakhs. As far as this amount is concerned, the Accountant-General has no control. There are three factors in the matter of giving loans. One is, whether the loan which has been given was necessary, and necessary also to the extent given. This is a fundamental point. The second point for consideration is whether the loan which has been given has been utilised for the purpose for which it was sought. The third point is, after the loans are disbursed, a time might come when the entire loan might not be returned. Just to give an example, I may state that a huge expenditure is incurred in disbursing takkavi loans. A good part of it may not be recovered in spite of the best efforts of either the Revenue Department or the Finance Department. A time may come when the entire loan disbursed to the people in this period may not be returned. If the Minister were to ask me, 'What is the basis of your argument', I may say that we have seen a case of loan, given some time in 1947-48 to the extent of Rs. 10 lakhs to a factory, being written off by this Government, as it could not be recovered. Of course the Finance Minister will say, 'I am not responsible', but still the Government of Madras had to sustain that loss, and the loan had to be written off. Another instance of a loan given which had to be written off is this. A loan of Rs. 4 lakhs was given to a steam ship company to develop steam line in the State of Madras, and the loan had to be returned in ten years. Of course there might have been some error of judgment at that time and proper precautions were not taken to see whether so much loan could be paid and whether that company would be able to return it in time. The amount had to be written off. My submission to the House is that when they have such huge loan expenditure, they should give sufficient guarantee and sufficient assurance to the House that the amounts would be returned. Possibly we may not live or we may not be in this House to see when the loans are returned. There may be a new Finance Minister, a new Chairman, and new Members. They will have to take stock of that item. Their argument will be, 'What can we do?' Incidentally, Sir, I do not want to make any charge against this Government. But this loan programme gives great scope for Government to have a little bit of patronage. Not that I make a charge that there is patronage shown. But the possibility is there. I hope the Hon. the Finance Minister will satisfy himself that in all these matters a proper scrutiny is made before a loan is disbursed. He should see that sufficient care is exercised before a loan is disbursed. No doubt the Leader of the House is bringing in a Bill in regard to co-operative

[Sri Mohamed Raza Khan] [28th March 1961

societies. We know the work of some of the co-operative
3-30 p.m. societies. Today they may be in a good position. But tomorrow they may collapse. I think if my friend, Mr. S. K. Sambandham was dealing with bleeding Madras' he would have collapsed and would have paid the Government not a pie. I am not blaming him. But that is quite possible. What guarantee is there that the subsidy which the Government give or the help they render is utilised properly? We have no machinery to find that out. This is an all-India question. Bigger heads with wide experience, which unfortunately we do not have, should find a solution. Just now, the Finance Minister was referring to misappropriation by some Kazhagam of Government grant. I was a member of the other House when the grant was given. Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar was the Minister for Education then. No condition was stipulated then. This is public money and this is an important factor that the Government must bear in mind.

As far as the financial aspect is concerned, I do admit that in the State of Madras, accounts are well kept and the Finance Department has good hold on the finances of the State. Fortunately, the successive Accountants-General have given good reports about Madras. I do not want to embarrass the Ministers but I am told that the handling of finances in Madras is—let me not say 'the best' and embarrass the Government—one of the best.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Say, 'the best'.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : It is a question of degree. But there is one thing that is recurring—excessive supplementary grants, injudicious reappropriations and non-surrender. Particularly with reference to non-surrender of savings, there are too many excuses put out. They say that the Collector has not sent the report or that the Board of Revenue is studying the report. I will leave it at that.

I would now refer as briefly as possible to what the Finance Minister himself admitted the other day. The Finance Commission has not done justice to Madras in the previous years. This was perhaps for very good reasons according to the Commission, for our position was very much better then. As was pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition the other day—he is not here now—we will leave it to the Government to deal with the Commission. Naturally we do not expect the Finance Minister to disclose his line of approach to the problem. But two or three pertinent points were raised by the Finance Minister when he replied to the discussion on the Governor's address. One was this. In regard to cloth—textiles—we were levying sales-tax previously. It was a sort of elastic revenue for us. Today we have surrendered that power of levy to the Central Government. According to the statement of the Finance Minister, even though this excise levy has been increased, the share of Madras will not be in the same proportion as it should be. Even in respect of income-tax, the Finance Minister complained the same thing was happening. We

28th March 1961] [Sri Mohamed Raza Khan]

do not know how he will handle these two issues, either by remaining here or by going to the Centre. I do not want to dilate on these further. Then, the Central Government have refused us the grant of 2.4 crores of rupees we were getting previously for meeting the extra expenditure on account of increased emoluments given to our employees. Further, it is understood that they have refused to meet the recurring expenditure on some of the developmental schemes executed under the Second Plan. We would like to know where these matters stand. We also want to know whether there is uniformity in the rates of interest we pay the Central Government. Last year, there was a reference to this matter and it was said there was no uniformity.

Now, Sir, I consider it my unfortunate lot to refer to the working of the Departments in the charge of Mr. Kakkan, endearingly called Kakkanji. We do not grudge any provision for Harijan Uplift. Originally the provision was 30 lakhs and now it is nearly four crores of rupees. Are the Government satisfied with the working of this department? Is it efficiently run? Government may have good plans and schemes. But when they spend huge sums of money, there should be proper scrutiny of the various items of expenditure. The Department needs to be toned up. Moneys earmarked for particular items are not spent properly. The help does not reach the people for whom it is intended. This requires careful consideration at the hands of Kakkanji. Then, Sir, I would like to refer to the other department in his charge, the P.W.D. (Interruption). Now because of the disturbance, another suggestion comes to my mind. A suggestion was made by the Public Accounts Committee itself that a Member, Board of Revenue, should be held directly responsible for the administration of the Harijan Welfare Department. That suggestion is for the consideration of the Minister concerned.

The Minister in charge of Finance last year, in his reply to the Budget debate, said that a close watch was kept on the progress of expenditure and that they were trying to avoid the irregularities by adopting a phased programme. Previously, the tendency was not to spend anything in the earlier part of the year but to rush expenditure at the fag end of the year, to the end of March. Now, there is a sort of check. But I am told—I speak subject to correction again—that this tendency still continues in the Public Works Department. Heavy expenditure is incurred in the last quarter of the year or the last month of the financial year. Mr. Kakkan, partly touring and partly troubled by visitors—I am told that his visitors average 1,000 per day—(laughter), is burdened with two departments. He has no time. Besides, tours and visitors, he has several committees to attend which means the number of days he has for official work is curtailed. Apart from this rush of expenditure, there is waste also. I am told that in

one particular place pipes were laid over two years ago and they remain idle for want of some other machinery. Thus, several lapses have happened and I leave them to him to enquire into.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is not his department. It is the Health Minister's.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : I am thankful to the Finance Minister. So, that strengthens my case that there is lack of co-ordination. One Minister says, the other Minister must be asked about a particular matter. Make the responsibility that of a particular Minister and things will be done properly. If there is failure, he can be asked to explain or hauled up, by the Chief Minister or any other Minister. Now, why not the Health Department have their own engineering department? Of course, it is a matter entirely for the Finance Minister to decide.

3-40 p.m. Sir, the other day there was a good deal of discussion about the education department. I do admit the Hon. the Finance Minister or whichever Minister it may be, who replies to the entire debate is not expected to reply to all the points raised during the debate by the Members. It would take two days for him to do so and nobody would have the time and patience to do that. But still the fact is there that we brought to the notice of the Government certain points about the administration of the Education department. The expenditure in that department runs to Rs. 20 crores and they have so many schemes such as better pay for the teachers—I take it to the satisfaction of the hon. Friend behind me—the pension scheme, housing schemes, and this wonderful Mid-day Meal Scheme, School Improvement Scheme and so on. The point is whether the machinery that the Government now have could cope with the work that has now fallen on this department. If the Hon. Minister says, he is satisfied, I have no quarrel with him. If he is not satisfied, then there should be a change in the administrative set up. The department should be bifurcated or some such thing. That would be better. Already it had happened in many departments. The medical studies have been separated from the main department, the engineering studies have been separated. In the Agricultural Department also there has been some division of functions. I would like to know if Government could not draw a line somewhere and try to divide the department, the education department into two wings and put them in charge of different officers as the circumstances may require so that the sum of Rs. 20 crores that we are spending in that department may be well spent, and the Hon. the Finance Minister who is also in charge of the Education portfolio could be satisfied.

Sir, in conclusion I would like to say a word or two about our own affairs. I have brought this to the notice of the Hon. the Finance Minister, the inordinate delay in replying to questions

28th March 1961] [Sri Mohamed Raza Khan]

put by the hon. Members of this House. With the best of intentions, Sir, you cannot help in this matter. It is entirely in the hands of the Government. Very important matters are involved in these questions and it would not take even half-an-hour or say one hour for the Government to prepare the reply but generally the question is replied after two or three months. Sir, last year when this matter was brought to the notice of the Hon. the Finance Minister he was kind enough to say : 'I admit there is much delay'. But the result of this admission continues to be the same. After all a member puts a question not for the mere pleasure of raising the matter and getting a few lines in the Press. He may have a particular point to bring to the notice of the Government. The importance of the question and the object of the Member in bringing it to the notice of the Government is lost if the question is replied after a delay of two or three months. I think the Government should do something in this matter. Sir, in the Lok Sabha very important questions are replied within a day or two because there is the will on the part of the Members on the Treasury Benches there to answer the questions. Sir, I might say in this connection that such questions also help the Government and it is not as if when questions are put either from this side or that side, the members alone have the advantage. Fortunately placed as we are, the last word rests with the Government and that is our difficulty also. What I want to say is, by answering the questions in time, it helps the Government also.

With only one more observation. I will conclude my speech, Sir. There is a variation in the replies given in this House and in the other House to the same question put by Members. The two Hon. Ministers who are responsible for this are not just now present in the House. I would therefore bring this to the notice of the Hon. the Finance Minister. When there was a question put in this House regarding the diversion of the Cauveri waters to the City of Madras, the Hon. Minister concerned took it in a humerous way and said : 'I do not know how the same question is put in this House as also in the other House'. It might be a pure chance that the idea which occurred to an hon. Member of the other House could have occurred to an hon. Member of this House, the hon. Member Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan or the hon. Member Sri G. Krishnamoorthy. There was a variation in the reply given. In the other House an exhaustive reply was given. Then, Sir, when a question was put to the Hon. the Leader of the House as to when the Government came to the decision to change the word 'Chennai' into 'Tamil Nad', he said that it was a confidential matter and the Government would not disclose the details. But unfortunately, Sir, in the other House, we find the Hon. the Home Minister, disclosed when it was decided and how it was decided. He gave all that information to the other House. The point I wish to bring to the notice of this House and the Government is this. What would be the impression left on the public when a member of this Council, for the same question, gets one kind of reply and in the other House a different reply is given,

a correct reply on the subject is given. Whatever might have happened in the past, I would appeal to the Government to avoid such things in the future in their own interest.

Thank you, Sir.

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should like to confine my speech to a few minutes. I would also make a departure from my usual way by referring to other items first and then say a few words on education. (Laughter) (An hon. Member : You are only adding to it). With regard to agriculture the hon. Member Sri Patanjali Sastri put forward a very important point the other day about the use of chemical fertilizers which are not necessary so necessary as it is being thought of today for our lands. Really with my experience, little experience of agriculture, I should say that these modern chemical fertilizers say the energy out of the lands. Even now, we do not get much grain but we get only more of straw and hay. We do not know what would be the fate of the future citizens, when practically the fertility of the land would be entirely wiped out. Now, the tendency on the part of the ryot is to try to get as much of these fertilizers as possible, whatever the cost and neglect compost manure, cow dung manure and the green manure. So the Government would do well to impress upon the ryots the need to utilize more of the green manures and they would do well also to concentrate their attention on the distribution of good seeds for raising green manure crops.

Coming next to the question of the use of the insecticides and pesticides, now we are come to the point when even a lay man has begun to question as to how within the last ten years and especially within the last two years, there have been so many deaths on account of the use of these pesticides and insecticides. Sir, in the land of Mahatmaji, the Father of the Nation, in the land of Ahimsa we think it right to kill all the insects for the benefit of man. Various poisonous chemicals, such as folidol and others are imported into our country and there has been no restriction whatsoever in the distribution of these pesticides and insecticides. And again I am afraid of using grains that have been stored in the godowns for a long time because I am told that the Government use insecticides to fumigate them and see that the grains are not eaten away by the insects. Some ten years ago we have not heard of persons dying of food poisoning. Only we heard that when people took the Burmah beans, some of them died. But now, for the past one year we hear that a large number of people die of food poisoning. Only now the Central Government have appointed a committee to go into this question of import of folidol and other insecticides. We would also do well to see that these things are not mixed in the bug killer and so on. We saw a report just the other day that a person took this bug killer and died. As these are easily made available to all persons, innocent persons buy and keep them without knowing the consequences and very often children take them. These insecticides are not required for our country. We can as well solve our problems as we did a century or so ago. We were not using them

28th March 1961] [Sri G. Krishnamoorthy]

before. India fed her millions without these aids, and she can continue to do so without them. Then, with regard to the storing and the preservation of foodgrains, Government should take steps to see that the use of these insecticides does not cause any harm to the consumers.

Then, Sir, with regard to the health programme, we have not been able to solve the problem of providing relief to our people on the basis of providing more hospitals and increased bed strength in them. I would therefore request the Government to go into the question of improving the Ayurvedic system. What have the Government done to examine the literature with regard to herbs which are easily available and can be supplied to the people at cheap rates? It would be good on the part of the Government to make a thorough investigation of this question. They should not content themselves with opening a college. They should make a thorough investigation and make known to the people the easy remedies available under the Ayurvedic method of treatment. Nobody will prevent this and the foreigner is not here to prevent it. Cheap drugs can be produced in our country itself and can be made available to the people without their having to get into crowded hospitals.

Now, coming to education, the Hon. the Education Minister has been here for the last nine years. I have also been here for the last nine years. I am really glad that his mind is also agitated that the children do not get the real benefit of all that is spent on education. The background in which they are getting this education does not enable them to attend to their studies. This is on account of the exhibition of films which ought not to be shown to them. I know he is interested in putting an end to such things but I do not know why the Government are enable to check the thing. The Central Censor Board or the Union Government may have the power to stop such things. Whatever it is, if the huge amount that is set apart for education should bear fruit, we should see that the character of our children is built up. Nobody can deny 3-50 p.m.
that the only aim of education is character-building. Only character can bring our nation first in the comity of nations. It is only character that is required in society. Even yesterday when I was passing by a bus, I was shocked to see with my own eyes the posters in front of the cinema theatre. I do not know whether, the Hon. Ministers see them when they go in their cars. What reaction will they have on the young mind—even children within twelve years? Are we spending usefully these Rs. 20 crores? It is all going to waste. Children go to the schools and colleges to have their character formed. But they are now going with a blassed mind, and this can be prevented. Even after 13 years of Swaraj, we are not able to do this. It lies in our hands. No foreigner can prevent this.. If character formation is the only aim of education, then we should see that the necessary background is provided so that the money spent not only by the States but also by the Centre, and the huge amounts allotted under the Five-Year

Plans and spent, are usefully spent. Unless and until this is done, there can be no discipline in schools and consequently no discipline in society. Our Government who have been taking some original things in respect of education should show the way here. It is not necessary that some agitation in respect of cinema posters should come from States north of our State. Our Government can show the way in this matter.

Then, with regard to the question of the content of education, I would humbly request this Government to appoint a committee to see that all unnecessary matter and all anti-social things are removed from the syllabus. Even to-day we find a mixture of superior coffee seeds with inferior ones in some ratio and proportion. We find questions on adulteration of milk. We speak so much about the formation of character of students and the spending of so many crores of rupees. What need is there for such books to be approved by the Text-Book Committee at great cost and bought by the parents at great cost, and taught by the teachers? What need is there for all this? So I would say that we are not concerned with the number or periods or the details of the subjects. We are concerned with the content of education throughout our land. There is not much concentration on content of education. Schools there may be. Colleges there may be. Teachers there may be. What is really taught in those places? It is the content of education that matters which goes by the name of education. It is not mere passing information. It is the formation of character. So long as there are anti-social sums, which if not properly worked, would bring punishment to the boy, the student should know what amount of water is mixed with milk. He should exactly find out how much water is mixed in milk. Such sums are given in a book approved by the Text-Book Committee. We are putting these wonderful ideas in the minds of young boys even after Swaraj all these 13 years after Swaraj. No parent takes objection to all these things. I thought it my duty to see that the Government must be requested to form a committee to go into the subject matter of mathematics books, history books, etc. In history books we have got ideas of separatism even now between the north and the south and kings and kings. All these things should be read word by word. As the Hon. the Finance Minister put it so ably after his recent tour overseas, there should be a separate committee to go into the content of education and there should be a separate committee to go line by line into every book that is to be printed. There should be a committee to study whether the contents in a book are really in the national interests, whether they would promote unity, or whether they would bring about disharmony, or whether they convey ideas which are in the interests of our country. If these things are thought of and set right, then the amount spent by the Government will be a great asset to us.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I should thank the Chief Whip of the Opposition Party for the compliments he paid to the Government as a whole. While

28th March 1961] [Sri C. Subramaniam]

I greatly welcome the sentiments he expressed, we are aware of our own shortcomings also. In spite of the best efforts, we do find defects in the administration. We do find mistakes being committed here and there. It should be our constant endeavour to see that these mistakes are rectified, and the greatest benefit accrues to the community, particularly when we are spending crores of rupees.

Mr. Raza Khan made a reference to the percentage of the amount spent on Services. Let us take Education. It has got to be on the basis of payment to teachers mainly. If we take into account the salaries of teachers and assess the cost, we see that it comes to so much and nothing less. Therefore, in that respect it has got to be a huge amount—a huge percentage—if we take expenditure on Education alone. So also, let us take the medical expenditure. We have got to employ a sufficient number of doctors and we have to pay them. Otherwise, there can be no medical service. In the same way, take the Public Works Department. We have to employ a large number of engineers, and without sufficient engineers, it is not possible to have this building programme or construction programme. Therefore, if we analyse the expenditure with reference to these various activities wherein the employment of personnel is inevitable, I am sure hon. Members will find that expenditure on what we call regular routine service, just like the Secretariat Service for purposes of administration, is greatly reduced. If we analyse even this 15.8 per cent, we would be able to find out what is the actual administrative service and what is the expenditure on it. We always keep an eye on expenditure. We see particularly that the percentage does not increase. I may give this assurance to the hon. Member and to the House that we are trying to evaluate the services rendered at the various points. Not that there is no scope for improvement. But it is fairly satisfactory, taking into account what was being done in other countries and also taking into account the work turned out in the past 20 and 25 years. Perhaps there is scope for a good deal of improvement. It is not the expenditure by way of salary which we have got to take note of. On the other hand we should not mind paying a little more to our employees. But at the same time, it should be expected of them to turn out proper amount of work and also quality work. From this aspect I do agree that we do require a good deal of mending. Earnest efforts are being made and particularly the younger generation is responding to this more and more. I hope and trust that ere long it should be possible for us to get entire satisfaction in this respect.

The one evil in our country is that we require the supervisory cadre at various levels. The upper division clerk and the lower division clerk have to be supervised by the Superintendents and the Superintendents have to be supervised by the Assistant Secretaries who, in their turn, are controlled by the Deputy Secretaries. We should reach a stage where when a job is entrusted to a particular person, it will be done without reference to the control

[Sri C. Subramaniam] [28th March 1961

or supervision involved therein. It is not only in Government service but in other services also this state of affairs exists. I was told that in Germany, particularly during the period when they had to build up their country so that the ravages of war could be compensated, there was no question of any supervision at all even at the lowest level. When any job was entrusted to a person, he did it in the most efficient manner possible, whether there was any one to watch or supervise his work. That attitude we should develop. I am sure, as we go on, that attitude would develop, particularly in the younger generation. Let us hope that it would be possible not only to get the amount of work done but that the standards of work also will be maintained. Taking into account the services which we are getting from our employees, I would only 4 p.m. say that they are fairly satisfactory. References was made to the huge sums of money—crores of rupees—distributed as loans, and doubts were raised whether all the loans could be recovered. After all, we are human beings. We use our judgment and it is only when it is necessary, we disburse the loans to the various persons in the community. With the best of our judgments, errors do creep in. I cannot say that loans will be recovered cent per cent. But we are trying to ensure that our error in judgment is minimised to the extent possible. With the various steps that we are taking not only in the matter of disbursement of loans but also in the matter of recovery, I am hoping that the losses would be greatly reduced. Losses are inevitable in any set-up because it is not possible in any state of affairs to get back all the money advanced. Take, for example, the private banks. They do scrutinise every application and give money and still there are bad debts. We must see that the losses are kept at the minimum possible. Particularly, in regard to takkavi loans, we take care to see that it is properly collected. A few years ago, it was in a complete mess. I do hope that takkavi loans will not only be recovered properly and completely from the ryots but the amount of loan also will reach the ryots in full.

With regard to the interest payable to the Government of India, we pay them 4 per cent interest. But there are certain loans which bear advantageous rates of interest, e.g., loans for the execution of certain projects which do not bear any return.

Reference was made to the working of the Harijan Welfare Department. I can only say that we are trying our best to help this section of the community so that ere long it may not be necessary to have a Harijan Welfare Department at all. They must reach that level of attainment where they would be able to function on an equal footing with the rest of the community. It is from that point of view that special concessions and facilities are given to them. We are glad to find that the efforts are yielding results and I hope that before long it would be possible for us to see that no special facilities and concessions are given even to this section of the community. Apart from Harijans, there are also other backward communities. Even in their case, it should be our

28th March 1961] [Sri C. Subramaniam]

endeavour to see that the need for concessions and facilities disappears soon. I do feel that there is competition in claiming backwardness because certain privileges are allowed. I do hope that this position will be mended soon.

Reference was made to the Public Works Department and to expenditure being rushed at the end of the year. What is more important is the attainment of physical targets. Bills have to be paid only after completion of works. If they are paid at the end of the year, that gives the impression that greater expenditure was incurred only at the end of the year and not earlier. It is only the payment that inflates the expenditure figure. But we have physical targets also for each quarter and we try to see that these targets are reached during each quarter. We are doing our best to see that works are not crowded at the end of the year. But there are hard cases and the work is rushed through. It is rather funny to have this 31st March as it were a magic date. Our policy in the matter of projects is—that is the policy of the Centre also—once a project is taken up for execution, it should be completed even if it goes beyond the 31st March. It must be so and money must be made available even beyond the 31st March. But I agree there are other items which should be attended to in a phased way and spread all over the year.

With reference to the point about lack of co-ordination, I do agree there is a certain amount of lack of co-ordination. Recently a very strange thing came to my notice. I visited the Veterinary College for a function. The Chief Minister performed the opening function. I saw there a brand new building put up at a cost of nine lakhs of rupees, for which I had laid the foundation stone a few years ago. Still the building remained unoccupied. I asked for the reason. They said furniture was not available, the tank was not fitted and so on. This should not have been so. Once a building is completed it must be occupied according to a planned programme. I issued an oral order that no building under any circumstances should be kept unoccupied for more than a month and that every building when completed should be handed over for occupation with everything furnished within one month. Now I understand that that building has been occupied. In the same way, this morning, the Director of Medical Services brought to my notice that some buildings had been put up but that latrines had not been provided for them for the last three or four months, with the result that the buildings remained unoccupied. These are things which are irritating and we know we have to take steps to see that there is proper co-ordination. After all this has to be planned. Planning is not chalking out a list of projects. It would include taking various necessary steps so that there might be proper co-ordination, and works completed at a particular time. There is no use of saying that we have completed 75 per cent of the work and only 25 per cent remains to be completed. So, it will be the endeavour of this Government to see that this lack of co-ordination

is rectified as far as possible not only as between the departments but within the departments themselves. I shall see that these projects executed at huge costs are not kept idle for lack of co-ordination.

Mention also was made about the Education Department. I would say that the tempo of activities is bound to increase during the Third Plan period in every department including the Education Department. The assessment of requirements of each department is being made and we hope to take a decision on this very soon. If necessary, we will even strengthen the staff particularly because the Plan involves heavy spending.

4-10 p.m. Sir, delays in regard to preparation of replies to questions was mentioned. I think matters have improved a little now. But if there is still delay I shall certainly look into it. Whenever we issue a circular, things improve perhaps temporarily. Then again the same old story is repeated. But I shall try to see what can be done in this matter.

Sir, the hon. Member Sri G. Krishnamoorthy has now become an agricultural expert from being an educational expert and he was dealing with the use of fertilizers. May I tell him that our ryots are not so foolish as he seems to imagine them to be? They do know how much of these chemical fertilizers should be used and how much of green manure and other compost and natural manure should be used along with these chemical manures. That is why we find a good deal of green manure crops being grown now and a good deal of compost manure produced. These are also being used along with the chemical manures. The hon. Member said that if the ryots continued to use these chemical fertilizers only, ultimately no seeds would be produced but only stalks would be produced. If that would turn out to be the case, the ryots would cease to use these artificial manures and fertilizers during the very next season. On the other hand we are trying to see that the appropriate and proper mixtures are used with reference to the crop, with reference to the fertility of the soil, with reference to the composition of the soil and the various other things.

Then he made mention about folidol and the various other insecticides and said that deaths had occurred due to the use of these insecticides. I do not know whether there was mention of suicides as accidents. If it is a question of suicide,—I think he was mentioning about suicide also because there was some report in the papers that somebody after committing murder took this poison and committed suicide—whatever steps we may take, suicides cannot be avoided, if the person is determined to take away his life. If folidol is not available he will take in another thing. Therefore that cannot be helped. But I do agree that accidents should be prevented. Steps are being taken to educate the people with regard to the dangerous qualities of these insecticides. The accidents will become less and less.

28th March 1961] [Sri C. Subramaniam]

Sir, the hon. Member also expressed concern about the fumigation of stored material. I am not an expert, but I am quite sure that fumigation does not in any way affected the foodstuff as such, the wheat or rice that is stored and fumigated. There is no question of poison being injected into the fumigated material. They could be used without any danger to life or human health. I know, Sir, you are the best judge in the matter. But that is the assurance given by experts and if there is any chance of the stored material getting affected by the use of materials for fumigation, I am sure those experts would avoid using that material.

Sir, very many matters with regard to education which are unexceptional were mentioned by the hon. Member Sri Krishnamoorthy. The only thing for consideration is how to implement. I am not only interest in the spread of education but also in the improvement and maintenance of standards to the extent possible. I am sure with the co-operation, particularly with the co-operation of the teaching community it should be possible for us not only to spread education but also to improve education as far as possible.

My Hon. Colleague points out that as far as the Harijan Welfare Department is concerned measures are being taken to see that the accounts are properly audited and I may inform the House that two special audit officers, one junior officer and one senior officer have been appointed to keep track of the expenditure so that wasteful expenditure is avoided. The hon. Member suggested that a Board Member should be associated in the administration of the department. He is associated even now as he has to inspect the various district offices of the department and keep an eye on the work carried on in the department.

Sir, on the whole even though we do feel that things are going on fairly well, we always feel that we can do better and therefore it will be our endeavour to strive to do better and better as far as possible.

Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 20 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration'.

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 20 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

'That the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 20 of 1961), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed'.

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 10-30 a.m. to-morrow.

The House then adjourned.

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 256. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 433, Home, dated 2nd February 1961 regarding amendment to rule 427 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.*

* 257. *Annexure to the Indian Stamp (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1961.*

* 258. *Notification issued with G.O. No. 54, Rural Development and Local Administration, dated 6th January 1961 appointing a whole-time Executive Officer for the Alwarkurichi and Kilakadayam Panchayats in the Ambasamudram taluk, Tirunelveli district.*

* Laid on the table of the House on 27th March 1961.